(c) In Delhi, the investigation by Police is going on. No intimation regarding any case being solved or arrest of any person has been received during the said period. In MTNL, Mumbai, one case has been solved and eight persons have been arrested.

Statement

The total number of cable thefts, subscribers affected and loss suffered by MTNL during the last years

DELHI

Year	No. of cables affected	No. of subscribers affected	Loss (in Rupees)
1999	196	68,886	33,56,415
2000	153	78,657	21,98,856
2001	208	81,204	18,36,268

MUMBAI

Year	No. of cables affected	No. of subscribers affected	Loss (in Rupees)
1999	43	7,260	16,34,940
2000	75	20,590	24,23,192
2001	32	15,980	4,98,634

Out of order units at Telephone Exchange in Almora Distt.

†4521. SHRI CHAUDHARY HARMOHAN SINGH YADAV: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that nine units out of existing ten are lying out of order for the last one year at Basore telephone exchange in Almora district of Uttaranchal and the lone functional units always repeats the message that "All lines of this route are busy" thus causing a lot of inconvenience to the consumers; and

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.

(b) if so, the steps being taken by Government to restart all the units of the said exchange and the action being taken against such officers whose negligence has made these units non-functional?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) No, Sir. All the units of telephone exchange Basore are working satisfactorily. 78 numbers are working from this exchange. This exchange has been connected to Bhatrojkhan exchange on 10 pairs underground cable (5 pairs used as junction lines and 5 pairs used for local numbers). STD services are working satisfactorily. There is a plan to connect Basore telephone exchange on MCP/VSAT media by the year 2002-03.

(b) Does not arise in view of (a) above.

Tardy Policy of Telecom Department

†4522. SHRI GHANSHYAM CHANDRA KHARWAR: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item which appeared in the daily "Aaj" dated the 21st March, 2002 under the caption "Mainpuri Dursanchar Vibhag Ki Dhulmul Nitiyon Se Janta Trast";

(b) if so, the details of the action taken/likely to be taken against such officers and employees;

(c) if no action has been taken, the rationale therefor;

(d) the remedial steps taken to stop such incidents; and

(e) if no step has been taken, the rationale therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI TAPAN SIKDAR): (a) Yes, the Government is aware of the news item of 21st March, 2002 appeared in Daily "Aaj" newspaper. In this news

†Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.